

Then the vendor later sends only a couple dollars back, citing a change in the average price of peaches . . . or the vendor perhaps even sends the customer a bill, demanding more money. If the customer complains, the vendor just points fingers at whoever they can. Those are the kinds of business practices commonly seen in the medication market today.

Any farmers market with such vendors would quickly close down or those vendors replaced. Competition clearly cannot thrive in such an environment.

The technology and data for a system like the MEDAQ are already out there, and there is unquestionably a need for transparency.

The MEDAQ would reform the medication market to ensure that those involved in the drug distribution chain can negotiate transparently and fairly with each other. Wholesalers could check the MEDAQ to compare prices and have an idea of what other wholesalers in the region are able to buy for what prices. Pharmacists could check the MEDAQ to hold their PBMs accountable and have a better idea as to whether the PBMS are truly negotiating the best deals as promised.

Just as a farmers market where vendors advertise and consumers choose based on quality, service, and prices—the MEDAQ would empower purchasers within the drug chain to demand and expect the best quality, service, and price.

I have long said that no one likes competition, but everyone is better off for it. Competition is driven by awareness of the goal and the competitors. In other words, competition is driven by transparency and an open market.

I believe a MEDAQ would restore competition to the medication market, and I ask my colleagues to support this bill requiring a study on the feasibility and effect of a MEDAQ.

ETHIOPIAN PRIME MINISTER DR.
ABIY AHMED ALI VISIT TO LOS
ANGELES

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to take official note of the visit of Ethiopian Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed Ali to the United States to order to engage Ethiopian Americans in the new direction he plans for his country. Confirmed and sworn in just a few months ago in April 2018, from the time of his acceptance speech he has made clear his desire for political reform, unity among the peoples of Ethiopia, resolution of the long-standing border conflict with Eritrea, and engagement with opposition groups both inside and outside of Ethiopia.

These priorities resonate strongly with the Ethiopian diaspora in the United States, as has his work to act on those priorities. He has announced political reforms, released thousands of political prisoners, negotiated guarantees for the release of Ethiopian prisoners in Saudi Arabia, and earlier this month he became the first Ethiopian leader to meet with an Eritrean counterpart in more than 20 years. That meeting resulted in the signing of a "Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship" declaring an end to tensions, reopening direct

telecommunications, road and aviation links, and regularizing access to ports.

I am proud to represent a district that is home to thousands of Ethiopian-Americans, and which includes Los Angeles' Little Ethiopia neighborhood. Los Angeles has the second-largest concentration of Ethiopians outside of Addis Ababa, behind only Washington D.C. The University of Southern California's Galen Center, also in my district, will play host to the meeting.

My constituents have proudly taken part in committees planning for this visit. I congratulate them, as well as the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry, the Ethiopian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and the Ethiopian Consulate in Los Angeles on what I am sure will be a successful event. The meetings in Washington on July 28 and in Los Angeles on July 29 are expected to attract tens of thousands in the Ethiopian diaspora.

Those constituents have told me that they hope the Prime Minister's presence, and his message, will inspire renewed interest in learning about, visiting and investing in their country of origin. As Ranking Member of the Africa Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I have worked to promote economic ties between the U.S. and the many nations on the continent, including Ethiopia.

I welcome the Prime Minister, and I hope this visit marks the beginning of an ongoing relationship with my constituents who proudly claim Ethiopian heritage, and who are now looking forward to contributing to a promising future for Ethiopia.

CELEBRATING WYATT MICK, JR.

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Wyatt Mick, Jr.

Wyatt was a community leader who loved his country and dedicated himself to making Mishawaka a better place to live.

He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who wanted to give his family every opportunity to succeed. A man of faith and good character, Wyatt contributed in countless ways to the strength of our community.

As Mishawaka's City Attorney from 1964 to 1980, Wyatt fought alongside Mayor Margaret Prickett to ensure our city was on a bright path forward. Hoosiers will truly miss his familiar face around town, his high spirits, and his steadfast support of freedom and opportunity.

Wyatt is survived by his wife Elaine, their two children, and their nine grandchildren. I have no doubt his family will cherish their memories of the loving, hardworking husband, father, and grandfather who inspired them to be the best they can be.

Mr. Speaker, Wyatt Mick's incredible story and legacy of service will live on far into the future. I want to thank Elaine for all she has done to comfort her family and honor her husband's life. I wish to offer my deepest condolences to Wyatt's family, friends, and loved ones.

I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of this great Hoosier.

CHESAPEAKE CITY LITTLE
LEAGUE GIRLS SOFTBALL

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the age 8 to 10 Chesapeake City Little League Girls Softball Team on the tremendous victory they achieved last week. On July 19th, these talented young ladies won the Maryland State Little League Softball Championship, in a 4 to 3 extra inning nail-biter.

I commend this team of talented young athletes for their hard work and good sportsmanship. The Little League pledge states "I trust in God, I love my country, and will respect its laws. I will play fair and strive to win, but win or lose, I will always do my best." The young ladies on this team embody the American work ethic, and their positive attitude made them unstoppable this season.

I wish these young athletes and their coaches the best of luck in the future, and I again congratulate them on their impressive victory as Maryland State Champions.

CELEBRATING BEA LUMPKIN: 100
YEARS OF FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE
AND INSPIRING GENERATIONS
OF ACTIVISTS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, in the 1930s, Bea threw herself first into the social and political struggles transforming the nation during the Great Depression. She attended rallies and stood on street corners denouncing Hitler and the wave of fascism gripping Europe. She participated in the 1930 National Hunger Protest that saw one million unemployed people descend on their state capitols demanding relief. Bea joined the fight for unemployment insurance and Social Security—all before she graduated from high school in 1934.

Bea enrolled in Hunter College, a free college for women where she studied chemistry. At just 18, she took time off from school to accept the challenge of organizing New York's laundry workers, a campaign that resulted in 30,000 people (mostly women) organized under the newly-formed Congress of Industrial Organization (CIO).

Bea moved to Buffalo in 1942 where she married and had two children, Carl and Jeanleah. She and her husband amicably divorced and Bea went to work for Western Electric. Bea still found time to organize a Wallace for President Committee in support of Progressive Party Candidate Henry Wallace's bid for the presidency. At a fundraiser for Wallace, Bea met her partner and the love of her life Frank Lumpkin. As an interracial couple, they encountered many hard looks and racial slurs.

The two married in 1949 and moved to Gary, Indiana, where they had two more children, Paul and John. Bea and Frank were an impressive team. When they discovered that the septic tanks in their predominantly African-